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## HOW WOMEN VOTED IN CALIFORNIA

PLYMOUTH LADY MAKES PER-  
SONAL OBSERVATION OF  
MANNER OF VOTING IN  
SAN DIEGO, NOV. 14.

### ELECTION DAY SCENES

Ballot Given to Women Makes Better  
Conditions at the Polls—Men  
Are Respectful and Helpful  
to the Ladies.

Mrs. J. H. Willey, who was reared in Marshall county, and lived in Plymouth most of her life, is now in San Diego, California, and as she takes a lively interest in the advance movements of the world, made a personal visit to the several voting places in that city when the first opportunity was given to the women of that state to vote. Mrs. Willey has written out an account of what she saw, and sent it to the Republican for publication, that others may know that women can go to the polls and come away without being subject to insult, any more than on the street or in a store. Mrs. Willey says:

"Today is a very important date in the history of this little city. Perhaps only second to the one in which Cabrillo first sailed into this beautiful harbor.

"Today the newly emancipated

citizens went for the first time to the polls. They went singly and in groups, some with their husbands, actual and prospective, and some without protectors. Not having been in the state one year, much to our regret, we could not vote. Nevertheless, this morning bright and early, I started out to see how it was done.

"I knew the uptown precincts would be all right, so I sharpened my pencil, and betook myself toward the warf, down where the drift wood accumulates. Where live Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese, Negroes, Indians—and, well everybody and anybody else. As I drew near the first voting place, I confess I did feel in a hurry. It was pretty well fortified with neighboring saloons, and the dozen or so men hanging about seemed to fit in with the landscape. Not a woman in sight. As I drew near the lull in the controversy over municipal harbor bonds made me aware that they were on the lookout for women who had courage to vote. I fancied they were relieved when I passed on. This precinct is dominated by "European American Citizens," of the class who evidently think

"Have ye not heard the words of Paul, Oh, let the women keep silence all." Right down in the heart of the slums the voting was done in the Industrial school building. When I saw the word "school" I felt it would be safe to enter. Once inside it did not look a bit dreadful. Just a clean school room, with the chairs temporarily placed against the wall. In the open space thus afforded pieces of canvass had been made into little corners and fastened to stumps to keep the inquisitive from seeing where you applied the rubber stamp.

On the rostrum was a long table, on one side of which sat two men, one with his hat on and one with his hat off; one smoking and the other—civilized. At the end stood a man with his hand on a machine ready to catch the falling snow flakes. At the other end—wonder of wonders—sat a woman ballot clerk. Mrs. Lucy R. Redmond has the distinction of being the only one in the city today. She is a settlement worker, and came to the rescue. The man who insisted on her doing the work said "It is a choice between a woman and two drunks." One of these drunks tried to vote while I was in the room. At ten o'clock he was so overcome that he forgot about the rubber stamp and walked off with Mrs. Redmond's pencil.

Mrs. Redmond assured me that this is one of the worst districts in the city, and still there was no loafing around the doors, and a number of the foreign women had come to vote, and she added "They vote quite as intelligently as the men." "Last election it took me all day Wednesday to clean up the room. The tobacco quids had to be raked out and the floor scrubbed before the children could enter. It smelled of tobacco for a week." "Look at it now," she said with a proud gesture. At eleven o'clock when I left there was not a quid in sight. So much for progress and one woman's influence in the slums.

In the uptown precinct which I visited, I was impressed with the helpful spirit of the men. They were simply overflowing with explanations. One lady had visited the booth, used the stamp, and made her contribution to the machine, and stood waiting for her friend, who started toward a booth. One of the men glanced up and said "Ladies you must not both go to the same booth." The lady who had voted said, in an even tone, "Yes, I understand." She then looked solemnly around over the group of men, and then no doubt seeing an answering gravity in my demeanor, she—well—really winked at me as she left the room.

Mrs. J. H. Willey.

#### A Fine Shower.

The Parcel Shower at the home of Mrs. Chas. Humphrey, corner of Adams and Walnut streets, given by the ladies of the Presbyterian church Friday evening, was well attended. Three good sized umbrellas were hanging in the alcove, but they were upside down, and suspended to catch and hold the "shower" of parcels as they fell. They will be opened and arranged for sale at a bazaar and dinner to be given at a future date. The guests were made to enjoy the evening in social converse, while the Seybold orchestra gave forth some fine music. The orchestra consisted of the Seybold family, and Mrs. LeOtto Peterson with her cornet, and Miss Faye Hess with her violin, and the mention of the names of these gifted musicians is a guarantee that the audience was well entertained. Messrs. Mortland and Leonard sang a duet that pleased all very much also. Each guest was invited to the dining hall, which was decorated with corn and pumpkins, and served with substantial refreshments by some of Plymouth's prettiest girls. It was certainly a pleasant evening for the entire company and we hope the shower of parcels will be pleasing to the ladies who managed the affair.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben McKesson of Tyner are visiting at South Bend and Mishawaka.

#### LECTURERS AT I. U.

Samuel Parker and Adam Wise  
Chosen For Addresses Before  
State Law School.

Among the lecturers chosen by the State University at Bloomington to address the students of the Law school are Samuel Parker of South Bend and Adam E. Wise of this city. Mr. Wise's subject is "The Old and the New," and Mr. Parker's is "Practical Suggestions."

These subjects are assigned by the college. Mr. Wise is to make his address on March 4, and Parker on March 11. Every year a number of the best lawyers of the state are chosen to address the students of the Law school.

#### Birthday Party.

Mrs. Samuel Tomlinson had a birthday on Thursday, and a number of her friends were at her home in the evening helping her celebrate the occasion. It was not intended to be a very great affair, and Mrs. Tomlinson had nearly made up her mind to quit having birthdays, but on receiving a number of very nice presents, she has changed her mind, and now announces to her family and near friends that she will keep on having birthdays at least once each year. Let all interested parties take due note of this, keeping the date in mind for future years.

#### Studying With Griffiths.

Miss Lena Myers, daughter of Fred C. Myers, living north of this city, went to South Bend Nov. 9 where she began a course in vocal music with Prof. Griffiths of Chicago. He is recognized as one of the best vocal instructors of today. Miss Myers is now a beautiful pianist and has both enthusiasm and patience with which she works with her pupils winning their sympathy and cooperation. Her desire is to give them better satisfaction and new ideas for the coming year.

Mrs. A. R. Shedd passed through Plymouth Saturday to her home in Argos after a sojourn at Winona.

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